



Sincerely yours,
Ted Kaczynski

THE UNABOMBER LETTERS

A YAHOO NEWS SPECIAL REPORT

The Unabomber on life behind bars

As an inmate on the most secure unit at ADX, Kaczynski's letters offer insight into what life is like inside America's toughest and most secretive prison.

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The selection was curated by Yahoo News

YAHOO!

NEWS

Great Falls Tribune

I would like people to know that a great deal of what they read about me in the newspapers is false. I can't list all of the errors here — if I tried to do that, this letter would be far too long for you to publish. But I am learning that the media's standard of accuracy is shockingly bad. When I was a kid, people used to say, "You can't believe what you read in the papers." I never realized how true that statement was until now.

On a different subject, I would like to say that I have been treated very kindly and considerately by the staff at the Lewis and Clark County Jail, and I want to thank them for it publicly.

Theodore J. Kaczynski

Received 9/8/97

September 7, 1997

~~[Not sent
to Lewis]~~

07-2807

Dear Lieutenant Lewis:

Greetings from Dublin (California, not Ireland). You'll be pleased to know that I'm doing alright here. It is a lot quieter at this place, and the atmosphere is less hard-nosed. Actually, they are a lot more strict about security here than you folks are at Sacramento — they won't move me 30 feet from my cell without cuffing my hands behind my back. The difference in atmosphere perhaps results merely from the fact that they sort of pretend that the place isn't really a jail. They call it a "detention center," and the officers don't wear police-like uniforms; instead, they wear fashionable sport-jackets and ties.

However, they are frank enough to call the big boss a "warden", which I think is a serious mistake from a psychological point of view. You could easily one-up them there at Sacramento merely by making a few changes in what you call things. You ought to eliminate the terms "officer" and "deputy," and refer to your floor officers as "counselors." The name

of the jail should be changed to "Sacramento County Correctional Education Center," the inmates should be called "trainees," and your title should be changed from "Executive Lieutenant" to "Dean."

To foster esprit de corps among the inmates ... I mean the trainees ... you should get some local poet to write a rousing song for them to sing — something about loyalty to dear old Sacramento County Correctional Education Center, and how proud they are to be trainees there.

Then you can line them up every morning at count and make them sing it. They will appreciate the fact that you care enough to do this for them.

I want to make it clear that it is not my intention to be impudent; I am merely trying to amuse you. Incredible as it may seem, I actually like you, so that, even if I didn't have practical reasons for remaining on good terms with you, I wouldn't want to annoy you by being snotty.

Best regards,

Ted K.

LETTER
to
LYDIA ECCLES

April 26, 2010
[corrected first draft. SAVE.
There is no carbon copy.]

Dear Lydia,

Your letter postmarked 4/6/10, which I received on 4/15/10, is interesting, but I will have to put off a complete answer until a later date. For now I will just answer your questions about the proposed card.

First, if you like, your drawing can occupy an entire $8\frac{1}{2}$ " x 11" sheet of paper. I can attach a second sheet to the back of it to complete the card. I will then have to send the card in a big manila envelope, unless I want to save money by folding the card up to fit in a smaller envelope. I have no way to cut paper.

I can no longer have photocopies made here (except photocopies of some legal papers), so either you would make the photocopies, or I would send the "master" copy to someone else to be photocopied, to save you the trouble. The copies would have to be black and white, because color copies are too expensive. I have colored pencils and can do some simple coloring, but you of course would do a vastly better job of it. We could work it this way: You could send me just two or three copies colored by you. Those would be reserved for my favorite correspondents. For less favored correspondents I could color other copies myself, following your model.

You ask about the meaning of the picture.

Um, well, someone once said, when asked about the meaning of his work of art, "If you don't understand it, then I can't explain it to you." When I was a kid, my father used to have an abstract painting hanging on our living-room wall. It was by some well-known artist, I forget who. Anyway, people used to ask, "What is it?", and my father used to answer, just for the heck of it, "It's a nude walking in the sunshine." Of course, this was nonsense, the painting was purely abstract, but people used to say, "Oh, yeah, I can see ..."

So much for the meaning of works of art. The meaning of the card will be what you put into it, and as far as I'm concerned you have complete freedom in that respect. To the extent that it's possible to explain the meaning of my idea--from which you can deviate as much as you like--the picture is supposed to combine humor and pathos. The humor is in the cartoon-like symbols of prisoner-hood (the striped suit, the ball and chain), and to some extent even in the "ARBEIT MACHT FREI" sign evoking the Auschwitz concentration camp. But at the same time the sign makes the picture exceedingly grim. The flower says that despite the grimness there is still hope and beauty in the world. To express this, the flower does not have to be portrayed in detail. It doesn't even need to be recognizable as a wild rose.

The sign over the gate is intended to connect the prison with the Auschwitz concentration camp (and,

again, to enhance the grimness of the picture). No reference to "society in general" or to a "big lie" is intended.

But all this is just an idea that I'm offering you. You can do whatever you like with it, or even discard the idea entirely.

There's no hurry about the card. You don't have to finish it soon -- or ever. The whole project is at your discretion.

I hope all is well with you -- or at least that you are surviving in the horrible place where you are now living!

Very best regards,

Ted

Enclosed: Article, Victoria Olsen, "Sum of Her Parts", Smithsonian magazine, May 2010, pages 10-12.

there altogether?

⑥ A couple of points from your letter of 6/30/13: You ask about my health: No serious problems - apart from the blood pressure. Except old age. I very definitely do not have the stamina, physical or mental, that I had when I was younger. No, I'm not planning to put ISAIF in the new book. It's already available in Tech Slavery. And ISAIF is getting badly dated. It needs to be either rewritten or annotated to bring it up to date. No time for that now. No, I definitely do NOT want a biographical sketch of myself in the new book.

⑦ I don't think regular over...

You ask, "Do they treat you OK where you are at?" In my opinion, keeping people locked up is not "treating them OK". But apart from the mere fact of being locked up - I'm not being mistreated in any way. I'm let out of my cell for exercise five days a week, Monday through Friday. I don't have a watch, but I would guess that the exercise period is usually somewhere between an hour and an hour and a half. So the amount of time I'm out for exercise is probably not more than seven hours per week. The rest of the time I'm kept in my cell, unless I'm taken out for a haircut or something of that sort. So I'd guess that, on an average, I spend at least 23 hours a day in my cell.

Apart from letters, documents, and the like, the only things I'm allowed to receive by mail are money, paperback books, and magazines. Please don't send me money, as I have all I need for the present. If you want to send books or magazines, please ask me first to find out whether I want what you're planning to send.

Sincerely yours,

Ted Kaczynski

P.S. You got my address wrong. It's P.O. Box 8500

TED KACZYNSKI
to

February 16, 2003

Dear Mr.

Thanks for your letter of January 30. You write: "Once we reach a level of technology you can never go back again ... Yet we have already gone way beyond anything we should have and there is no going back."

That's partly right and partly wrong. There is no going back within the context of a given civilization, but when a civilization breaks down, all the technology that depends on that civilization's form of social organization breaks down with it. No civilization last forever; and ours won't either. When it breaks down, all our modern technology will go too. If you have a copy of the Unabomber Manifesto, see paragraphs 207-212.

The breakdown of the system will be disastrous but the bigger the system grows the worse the disaster will be, and that's why I believe that a revolutionary movement should be formed that will help the system to break down sooner rather than later. There already is a revolutionary movement of sorts (ever heard of ELF?), but I think it is of low effectiveness and needs to be improved upon.

To answer your questions:

I'm not interested in spectator sports. I d

keep in shape by running and doing other exercises.

Yes, you can send me photos of yourself if you like.

Yes, if you like, you can send me ten dollars.

No, I'm not ordinarily allowed to receive packages. Not even from approved vendors, except that I can receive paperback books and other printed matter from publishers.

What we get to eat here is a pretty ordinary American diet, except that the prison is very stingy with vegetables. We don't get any printed menus.

I've already forwarded to Europe the copy of Earth First!; Environmental Apocalypse that you sent me. But if you want to send your extra copy of it to

I think the person who holds that box should read the book.

Best regards,

Ted Kaczynski

TED KACZYNSKI
to

0244.0

May 19, 2003

Dear Mr. [unclear]

Thanks for your letter of May 5. In it you offer to put things on the Internet for me. I accept your offer. I'm enclosing herewith an article titled, "If Earth First! Had Been Around Sixty Years Ago ...". At one time I actually submitted this article to the Earth First! Journal, but for obvious reasons they didn't print it. If you would like to put it on the Internet for me, I'll be much obliged to you. I would appreciate receiving a copy of it as downloaded from the Internet.

Thanks for wishing me a good month of May. May has been okay for me so far. But my birthday is the 22nd. Maybe you know that already, since you put a "Happy Birthday" stamp on your letter. Anyway, I turn 61 on the 22nd. Sixty is too old already, and I'm not particularly anxious to add another year to my age. But I like May anyway. It's springtime, and I can listen to the birds singing when I'm out in the rec yard.

I hope you're not having to work too hard to pay those bills, and I hope that everything is going well for you in other ways.

Best regards,

Ted Kaczynski

[See Back of this sheet.]

TED KACZYNSKI

to

September 11, 2003

0214.0

Dear Mr. :

I have received your postcards dated 8/1/03 and 8/9/03, and your letter dated 8/25/03. But in the postscript of your letter you said you were sending the updated draft in a larger manila envelope, and as of 9/11/03 I have not yet received the updated draft.

The reason why my envelopes are postmarked a few days after the date of the letter is this: I date the letter when I write it, and the next day (or two or three days later if I write the letter on a weekend) I hand the letter to prison staff for mailing. The letter then goes to the "SIS Technicians" — in effect, censors — who read the letters before they are turned over to the post office; so you can see why the letters are somewhat delayed.

The prison gives inmates paper (like the paper I'm writing on now) and letter-sized envelopes (like the envelope this letter will be mailed in) for nothing. Occasionally I run low on paper and buy some from the commissary, but usually the amount of paper they give us free is enough. The manila envelopes I use are from the commissary, but they only cost 5¢ each and that's not a problem. I do appreciate your offering to send me envelopes and paper though, and if I ever need some special kind of envelopes or paper I'll let you know.

You ask about the weather here. We had a very hot, dry summer this year. Humidity is not a problem, but

0214.0

it does get hot at times, like over 100°. However, now that Fall is approaching, the weather has cooled off quite a bit.

You ask whether I ever do any drawing, painting, etc. Yes, I have to. My mother-in-law demands homemade birthday cards, Christmas cards, and so forth from me. She is a holy terror. When the occasion calls for a greeting card, if I fail to send her a home-made one, she ... no, I'm joking. Actually she treats me with much kindness and tolerance. She gets mad at me only on rare occasions, and only because I deserve it. I do send her home-made greeting cards and so forth, for which I use colored pencils, and that's about the only art work I do.

In regard to big business cutting trees to make a fast buck you write, "I sometimes think it is easier not to care, because when [you] see what is going on around you and you give a care, that can stir up a lot of confusion." Yeah, that's how most people react. They see all this crap that goes on, but they don't let themselves care about it because they feel helpless to do anything about it, so if they let themselves think about it they get angry and frustrated. Consequently, it's easier to just refuse to think about it. And when people refuse to think about it, they do nothing and we all just get screwed by the system. We need people who are willing to care even when it's painful to do so.

You ask about my cabin. All I know is that it is

because of bungling on the part of my former attorney Quin Denvir, the government was able to take possession of my cabin. I have no idea where it is now or whether it is intact.

As for the telephone, my outgoing calls do not have to be collect calls, but I am allowed only three 15-minute calls per month. Barring unusual contingencies, all those calls are reserved for my

You ask to have the envelope(s) from the letters that I tried to send you that were returned to me. But you already have the envelopes. When the letters were returned to me, the envelopes, and the stamps on them, were still perfectly good, so I used them for subsequent mailings to you. I can't send you the letters that were in the envelopes when they were turned back, because they would just be turned back again for the same reason they were turned back the first time.

Thanks for sending me your new home address, and for clearing up my uncertainty about your P.O. Box number. I hope the heat & humidity around Tampa have eased off, and that all goes well with you.

Best regards,

Ted

foregoing.

*

As to the questions you asked in your letter of March 17: For a while Timothy McVeigh, Ramzi Yousef, and I shared exercise time fairly regularly. As you probably know, McVeigh has now been moved to

Terre Haute, Indiana. I have not recently shared exercise time with Ramzi Yousef, but I do frequently take rec with a couple of other well-known inmates. I won't mention their names without their permission. (I had Ramzi's and McVeigh's permission to talk about our shared rec time.) Both Ramzi and McVeigh are very intelligent, and they are friendly and considerate of others. I know very little of what the media have said about Ramzi, but I can say that McVeigh has been misrepresented by the media.

None of the foregoing remarks are to be construed as an endorsement of actions of which Ramzi and McVeigh have been accused.

Yes, I was amused by the answer you gave to the letter received by mother. As for conversion to Islam, there is a Muslim inmate here who would like to convert me. He's even got me reading the Koran. I'm not about to be converted just yet, though. If I ever do get converted I'll ask you to take up a collection to buy me a camel and a burnoose.

Timothy McVeigh would like to receive a copy of Green Anarchist. He's been moved to Terre Haute, Indiana, where he will probably be executed about a year from now. His current address is:

12/26/99 to George Woodson, page 23

Timothy McVeigh
Number 12076-064
United States Prison Terre Haute
Highway 63 South
Terre Haute, Indiana 47808
U.S.A.

Best regards,

Ted Kaczynski

TJK

TED KACZYNSKI
to
GEORGE WOODSEL

February 2, 2000

0460

Dear George,

Thanks for your letter of January 13. You wanted to know "when the appeal itself is going down." There is no specific date on which the appeal occurs. Here's how it works: First I submit my brief to the court. (That has already been done.) Then the prosecutors must prepare and submit their brief within a specified period of time. After that I have 14 days to submit my reply to the prosecutors' brief. (But I will probably ask for, and will probably receive, an extension of time.) When the court has received all these briefs, it can order the prosecutors and me to appear before it to give oral arguments; but the court probably will not do this. Whether or not any oral arguments are given, a panel of three judges will study the briefs (and the oral arguments, if there are any) until it arrives at a decision. There is no particular time-limit; the court just announces its decision whenever it is ready to do so.

As far as improving my conditions of confinement are concerned, I really don't think there is anything you can do to help me. The Bureau of Prisons is a Bureaucracy. It's bound by rigid rules, and the administrators are responsible only to other bureaucrats higher up. Neither the administrators nor their superiors care in the least about any

[TSK to George Woodset 2/2/00]

2.

0460.

agitation by anarchists.

Anyway, I consider myself to be in a (relatively) fortunate situation here. As correctional institutions go, this place is well-administered. It's clean, the food is good, and it's quiet, so that I can sleep, think, and write (usually) without being distracted by a lot of banging and shouting. The prisoners on my range of cells are easy to get along with. The staff are mostly friendly, and some are surprisingly kind and helpful.

The hardships are the small spaces I have to exercise in, small windows with no view of anything outside the prison, and lack of visiting opportunities. But still I'm better off here than I would be in other prisons with high noise levels and surly staff.

With regard to Truth vs Lies, I strongly suggest that you should consult a lawyer to make sure that you really are immune to lawsuits for libel or copyright infringement, ~~that might be wrong about that~~ because you're not in the U.S. You might be wrong about that. For example, there are international agreements on copyright, and those agreements might allow you to be sued by someone in the U.S. I would hate to see you get screwed by a vicious lawsuit, so I really think you should check up on the law concerning this matter.

There's another thing ~~is~~ about Truth vs.

[TSK to George Woodset 2/2/00]

3.

0460.

Lies that I should have told you earlier, but I didn't think of it at the time.

I have a cousin my daughter, who is severely disabled and bedridden for life. Long after I had written the manuscript of Truth versus Lies, my learned that the manuscript reveals that my brother claimed that she was schizophrenic. told me that she is extremely anxious that this should not be made public. She quoted to me psychiatric reports stating that showed no sign of "psychosis," though she does have problems with depression. thinks that will be terribly hurt if she learns that Dave thinks she is schizophrenic. I don't know whether could be hurt as badly as my thinks, but anyway was always very nice to me when I was a kid, so I would like to comply with her wishes in this matter.

So in any copies of the manuscript of Truth vs Lies that you give anyone from now on, please black out the parts that indicate that Dave thinks is a schizo. I can't give you the exact pages where these parts occur, because I don't have the original manuscript with me at the moment, but I can give you the approximate locations. There are two consecutive paragraphs near the middle of Chapter XII; there is Note 22 to Chapter XII; and there is one paragraph a little past the

You ask about my "typical day". A typical day for me would go something like this:

I'm awakened for breakfast at about 6:00 AM. At about 7:00 AM I'm let out for exercise. I cover about five miles running back and forth in one of the tiny areas that we're allowed to exercise in. After an hour and a half in the exercise area I'm put back in my cell. Lunch is delivered between 10:00 and 11:00 AM and dinner between 4:00 and 5:00 PM. The time between exercise and lunch and between lunch and dinner I spend doing paperwork, except that I might sleep for an hour or two after lunch, and on some days I spend an hour or so before dinner doing exercises in my cell — pushups and situps and so forth. After dinner I do more paperwork until I knock off at about 8:30 or 9:00 PM. Then I have a snack, after which I read, or I study German or Spanish, until I go to bed at about 10:00 PM. The paperwork I do consists, for example, of writing about the problems of modern society, reading letters and answering them, trying to work out problems connected with the question of finding a permanent repository for the documents that my erstwhile attorneys are holding for me, and so forth. Of course, besides the paperwork there are various chores to take care of,

such as cleaning the cell and bagging up my dirty laundry.

You kindly offered to give me further help. I could use one photocopy of the Epilogue (titled "The Bushmen in 1989") of the 1989 edition of The Harmless People, by Elizabeth Marshall Thomas. I could also use a photocopy of the article "Hunters and gatherers: Economic behavior in bands," by E. Cashdan, which appears in S. Plattner (Ed.), Economic Anthropology, Stanford University Press, 1989. I would ask my Lady-Love (♥) to get these materials for me, but unfortunately she is sick at present.

Sincerely yours,

Ted Kaczynski

the 9th Circuit to have my case reconsidered by a panel of eleven judges. The outcome remains to be seen.

To answer other questions: I am allowed to receive almost any books from outside the prison, except that I cannot receive hardcover books unless the covers have been removed.

How am I treated? Compared to state prison or county jails, conditions here are good.

Security is extremely strict, and I can't have any visitors other than journalists and lawyers. On the other hand, the prison is clean

and quiet, officers are polite, there is no rough treatment, and the food is usually good.

Prisoners are allowed $1\frac{1}{2}$ -hour recreation periods

4 or 5 times a week. Recreation spaces are small, but not so small as to prevent me from running. I run about 5 miles during each rec period, and do other exercises. The rest of the

time I'm locked in my cell, and apart from chores such as cleaning the cell and bagging up the laundry, I spend most of my time

working on law books, or writing, or answering letters, or doing other things that can be loosely described as paperwork. I also take a little time for recreational reading. The theory that I am "Zodiac" is too silly even to be worth answering. The people who make that

couple of books in Polish in a (3 second-hand bookstore (the same one, as a matter of fact), and bought them for my parents, but my parents then told me that they didn't know how to read Polish at all!

0642.0

After recommending Ellul's Technological Society to you I noticed that you had mentioned in an earlier letter that you had read that book. I read Ellul's book propaganda many years ago, but I don't remember much about it, only that I thought it was nowhere near as good as The Technological Society. The distinction between "integration propaganda" and "agitation propaganda" is very useful, though. Another book of Ellul's that you might like is Autopsy of Revolution.

To answer your questions: (4 routine in a federal prison. (5 When I used the Spanish word I can tell you what my daily "librerías", I mean bookstores, routine is, but it isn't typical of not libraries. I'm allowed to federal prison life, since I'm on receive books only from publishers, a range of 8 cells where the bookstores, or book clubs. inmates are confined under exceptionally restrictive conditions.

The TV set in my cell is capable of playing certain radio stations. I usually listen to only two radio stations, the one that plays classical music and the one that plays hispanic music. I never watch the TV, except the institutional channel, which posts notices from the prison authorities.

I keep up with current events, though not very diligently, by reading newspapers and news-magazines.

You ask about the daily

Meals are delivered through a slot in the door. I.e., the door of the inmate's cell. Breakfast, about 6:00 AM, lunch, about 10:30 AM, dinner, about 4:30 PM. Later the officers come to collect the trays which you hand out through the slot in the door. Each day, Monday through Friday, we are offered an opportunity for "rec" (recreation), which may be either in the morning or the afternoon. Rec is either indoors or outdoors.

on alternate days. For rec you first have to strip naked to be searched. You get dressed again and stick your arms through the slot in the door to have your hands cuffed behind your back. Then they take you either to an indoor rec area (roughly 15 by 27 feet, I estimate), or to the outdoor rec yard, which is divided up into wire-mesh cages (average size 12 by 18 feet, I estimate). Each inmate is put into a separate indoor rec area or outdoor cage. You stick your hands through another slot and they take the cuffs off. Then you're allowed to exercise or do whatever you like for about an hour and a half, after which they take you back to your cell.

And that's the whole routine. Apart from that you just stay locked in your cell and spend your time as you please.

* * *

In my last year of highschool I took a course in musical theory and composition. It was incompetently taught, and I learned almost nothing in it, but I did pick up a few technical terms. One of which was "cadence." But we were never actually given a definition of the term "cadence." As best I can make out, it means a series of chords, beginning with the tonic and proceeding in a natural-sounding and euphonious sequence until it resolves again into the tonic. The only example of a cadence that we were given was: tonic, subdominant, dominant, dominant-seventh, tonic. That is, in the key of C:

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ID# 0234 3001 9655, ACCT NO-N7T02343001965, TYPE-N7T

DECEMBER 11, 2002

23291-023430019655

RE: MEN'S HEALTH

THEODORE KACZYNSKI

PO BOX 8500

04475-046

FLORENCE CO 81226-8500

AMOUNT DUE: \$24.58

Term: 10 issues

ACCOUNT STATUS: DELINQUENT

Dear Theodore Kaczynski,

We are a collection agency and our business is to collect. But we are also in the business of helping to resolve problems which occasionally arise between publications and their subscribers.

MEN'S HEALTH has informed us that you have not paid for your subscription. They would rather keep you as a satisfied subscriber than have to consider further collection notifications.

Send your payment in the amount of \$24.58 and we will report that payment to our client. Your account will be cleared and you will receive the remaining issues in your original subscription.

Mail your check, payable to North Shore Agency, in the enclosed envelope.

THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION
OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. DETACH HERE

DETACH HERE

7T02343

001965

00024581

Sincerely,

0109489542B 0220PX08
MEN'S HEALTH

E. J. Sullivan

Collection Mgr.

**NORTH SHORE AGENCY-N7T-BB
PO BOX 8901
WESTBURY NY 11590-8901**

THEODORE KACZYNSKI

PO BOX 8500

04475-046

FLORENCE CO 81226-8500

**PAY THIS
AMOUNT**

\$24.58

06NR000027 MPX UD120MI001

DECEMBER 11, 2002

06NR000027 MI X SD120M001
NOTICE-SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION 06

PERSONAL

December 20, 2002

to
Collection Manager
North Shore Agency Inc.
751 Summa Avenue
Westbury NY 11590

Account Number—
N7T02343001965
Type—N7T

Dear Sir:

Today I received from you a bill for \$24.58 on behalf of Men's Health magazine.

I do not owe a cent to Men's Health, because I have never requested, ordered, or accepted a subscription to Men's Health. It appears that someone else, without my knowledge or consent, has ordered a subscription to Men's Health in my name.

I do not know for certain who has done this, but I think it is probably

Ms.
is a kook who for several years has been sending me quantities of junk that I do not want, and has been purchasing for me numerous subscriptions to magazines that I do not want. So I suggest that you try to collect this debt from Ms.

Sincerely yours,

Theodore Kaczynski

THEODORE KACZYNSKI

04475-046

U.S. PENITENTIARY MAX

P.O. BOX 8500

FLORENCE CO 81226-8500

cc:

TED KACZYNSKI
to

February 4, 2003

Dear

In your letter of 1/24/03 you ask me to explain to you the conditions under which I live here in the oubliette of the U.S. Penitentiary Administrative Maximum Facility. Ah, me. The rats, the spiders, the stagnant pool on the floor, the massive, damp, grey blocks of stone that form the walls, the dim light filtering between rusty iron bars in the tiny window high overhead, the straw pallet, the stump of a candle, the diet of bread and water, the ancient, grim-faced warder forever jangling his bunch of enormous keys ... alas, we have none of that here. This place is completely sterile, in the worst sense of the word. Not a bit of romance to be found in it anywhere. To answer your specific questions:

I have to keep the balance of my commissary account under \$ 200⁰⁰. I am able to order books from the prison library, but the number of interesting books available is very limited. We all have television sets in our cells, but I refuse to watch television. However, the TV set also serves as a radio and there is a classical-music station that I listen to. Email is not available to inmates. I can make 3 telephone calls a month but cannot receive phone calls except from lawyers. I can order food items from the commissary, but most of what is offered is junk food. No, I don't have any enemies

1 J N 10

2/4/03

4

here. Yes, I'm familiar with Edgar A. Poe's story "The Gold Bug".

Regarding the article I asked you for, I very much appreciate the fact that you've gone through the trouble to order a copy of it for me. I've just learned of a new rule the BOP (Bureau of Prisons) has introduced that puts unreasonable restrictions on an inmate's right to receive printed matter. If they actually enforce this rule to the letter, I'll probably challenge it in the courts. However, what you will be sending me will be (I assume) a photocopy and not printed matter. The new rule says nothing about photocopies, so I think the authorities will allow me to receive the material. In answer to your question, the material I requested was not mentioned in IS & IF.

No, I don't absolutely rule out your proposals regarding "publishers/writing in general etc."

As for your proposed outline for the adaptation of "Ship of Fools", I really don't have any opinion about it one way or the other. It's not the outline but the execution of it that will determine whether the play is good or bad.

As for your last paragraph — about the 5 or 6 hundred dollars in traffic fines: Yeah, the system always screws us, doesn't it? You express doubts as to whether you can "make it". But I think you will make it. We pass through these very difficult times, but somehow we survive them and recover from them. So just hold out as best you can, and after a while things will get better.

Best regards,

Ted

library had 28 U.S.C. § 1331, § 1914, or § 1915. As I've already made clear, I was wrong. I don't know whether the main law library has just recently acquired 28 U.S.C. § 1000 to § 2000, or what.

So, again, I apologize for having put you to the trouble of getting those materials for me.

To answer the questions in your letter of 4/8/03. How are the living conditions? Well, it's no fun being locked in a cell for all but 6 or 8 hours a week, but as prisons go this place isn't bad. It's kept clean, and, at least where I am, it's reasonably quiet. (When I was in the Sacramento County Jail I suffered from very serious sleep deprivation due to the constant noise.) Officers here treat the inmates decently.

On the other hand, there are all sorts of screwball security regulations. For example, they recently introduced a new one to the effect that inmates are allowed to receive books, newspapers & magazines only directly from the publisher or a bookstore. So if a friend wanted to send me a book, it wouldn't be allowed.

The windows of the cells here are tiny, and when you look out of them there's nothing to see but concrete and steel. The food isn't bad, for institutional food, but they are much too stingy with fresh vegetables.

Do I go outside? Yes, from 3 to 4½ hours a week. If you can call it being outside. We're put in a rec yard that is all concrete and steel (no grass

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or even dirt) and is covered over with wire mesh like cyclone fencing. The prisoners are put into little wire-mesh cages within the rec yard, one prisoner to a cage.

What do I do for recreation? The rec periods add up to about 6 or 8 hours a week, some indoors, some outdoors. I spend the rec periods mostly running, which means running back and forth over a distance of about 28 to 30 feet. As for other recreation, I don't have much time for recreational reading, because I'm too busy with correspondence, legal affairs, and other things; but I do do a little recreational reading. Each cell here has a TV set, but I don't watch it. However, the TV set also serves as a radio, and there is a classical-music station that I listen to a great deal, usually while doing paperwork. Sometimes, too, I listen to a station that plays Mexican music.

You mention that you've been turning soil for your vegetable garden. I wish I could be out there helping you. Even more, I wish I could help you eat the vegetables!

You also mention "incredibly scenic hiding places" in the Black Hills. Yes, I had my beautiful, hidden nooks in the country around Lincoln, Montana, too. Wish I could visit them again!

P.S. I've just noticed that I've been misspelling your name. My apologies!

— TJK

Best regards,
Ted Kaczynski

TED KACZYNSKI
to

0933.0 June 2, 2005

Dear

Thanks for your note of May 5. Last time I heard from you, you were Hmmm . . .

Well, your mother has informed me of your sister's death. I'm sorry to hear of it, and I offer you my condolences. But tells me that Nora died with a smile of relief on her face, so in a way maybe she was lucky.

I do appreciate the fact that you've offered me "socks, snacks, books, etc.", but it appears that you don't understand what this place is like. Remember that this prison is run by the same government that imprisoned people at Guantānamo for a couple of years incommunicado, without trial and without access to lawyers. They would undoubtedly keep us under the same conditions here if they could get away with it. They can't get away with it -- yet. But maybe ten or twenty years from now, if presidents keep appointing right-radical judges Anyway, prisoners here are not allowed to receive socks or snacks from outside the prison. They can receive books from outside the prison only if the books are sent directly from a publisher, a book club, or a bookstore.

You could probably get in here to visit me -- but only because you're my cousin and I've known you for something like fifty years. You would have to fill out a form (no fibbing on the form, under

TED KACZYNSKI
+..

March 12, 2006

(054.7)

Dear

Thanks for your letter of February 2. To answer your questions: "Are conditions okay?" No. For example, they won't let us have decent pens to write with. "Do they let you have a TV and books and such?" Yes, each prisoner has a TV. But I refuse to watch TV. Each prisoner is allowed to have a limited number of books. "Do they let you go outside?" Yes, they let us go out into a rec yard, but it's not much of a treat, since the rec yard is nothing but concrete and steel, and each prisoner is put into a wire-mesh cage about 12 by 18 feet in dimensions. "Is there anything you need?" About the only things you would be allowed to send me would be letters, books, and money. Right now I'm all full up with books, so that leaves money. Money always comes in handy. If you decide to send me any you should use a postal money order (no cash or personal checks). My full name, THEODORE JOHN KACZYNSKI, and my register number, 04475-046 must be printed on the money order. The money order should be sent to

FEDERAL BUREAU OF PRISONS

THEODORE JOHN KACZYNSKI

04475-046

P.O. BOX 474701

DES MOINES, IOWA 50947-0001

Whether or not you send me any money, I thank you for your kind letter.

Sincerely yours,

Ted Kaczynski

To answer your question, I have no access to computers or the Internet. I wanted your email address only so that I could pass it on to others. I'll give it to no one but those whom I know well and trust -- unless by your permission.

To answer the rest of your questions: Yes, I am allowed to receive photos (a maximum of 12 at any one time). I can recommend a reading of the following books (all of which were cited in Technological Slavery): Martin E.P. Seligman, Helplessness: On Depression, Development, and Death. Desmond Morris, The Human Zoo. Martha F. Lee, Earth First!: Environmental Apocalypse. * I have not read Martin Rees, Our Final Century, but it is probably well worth reading. If you do read it, maybe you'll be kind enough to send me a brief report on it. I haven't read many books by professed anarchists, but in what I have read of such books I've found very little that I consider to be of value.

Now your letter of 12/29/10. I didn't actually write about my health. What I did write was that I could die at any time. Actually my health is generally good. But when you're pushing 70 you never know when something may go wrong, and if something does go wrong I certainly can't count on getting adequate medical care. The medical staff here is ... the less said the better.

The third paragraph of your letter of 12/29/10. Prior to the publication of The Road to Revolution (the

*Of course, the fact that I recommend these books does not imply that I agree with everything they say.

TED KACZYNSKI

to

July 3, 2009

[Corrected first draft]

Dear

Thanks for your letter postmarked June 24, which I received on July 1. I'm really not the right person to ask about prison life, because I'm an atypical prisoner in an atypical prison. Prison life probably is boring and monotonous for most prisoners in a maximum-security prison like this one, but it isn't so for me, because I have too much rather than too little to keep me occupied. I'm involved in a court case, in writing, and in correspondence.

As for prison reform, the possibilities for that are very limited in a prison of this type, where extremely restrictive measures are necessary just in order to protect the prisoners from one another. Some of the people in here are really vicious. For example, just a few years ago two inmates at this prison were killed by other prisoners.

Given the need for internal security in prisons generally, I doubt that there would be room for any really far-reaching reform of the federal prison system, which, as far as my knowledge extends, is relatively well managed -- for a prison system. This doesn't mean that there is nothing wrong with the Bureau of Prisons (BOP). There is incompetence and rigidity, and BOP officials are more concerned about their own careers and about the BOP's public image than they are about serving the public interest. But these are problems that are characteristic of any bureaucracy; most likely they are

inevitable, and I doubt that much can be done to alleviate them.

There is probably more room for reform in state prison systems, some of which, according to what I've heard, are much worse than the federal system. For example, one prisoner who was brought here from a California prison said he thought this place was "paradise" by comparison. There certainly is plenty of room for reform in some local jails. For about two years I was in the Sacramento County Main Jail, where conditions were really horrible.

From my point of view the worst problem here is that the BOP tries to impose limitations on prisoners' rights to communicate with the outside world -- limitations that in my opinion are unconstitutional. For example, the BOP used to have a rule that prohibited prisoners from publishing articles under their own names. That rule was declared unconstitutional a couple of years ago by a federal court. The case, Jordan versus Pugh, was litigated by law students at the University of Denver working under the guidance of a law professor there -- an excellent lawyer who has also supervised law students litigating other prisoners'-rights cases.

I think the BOP's tendency to try to limit prisoners' constitutional rights is a reflection of our society's long-term drift toward authoritarianism, a drift that is a product of deeplying social forces and cannot be remedied by anything short of a revolutionary transformation of the entire society.

Sincerely yours,
Ted Kaczynski

... "Actually, I'm glad to be in this prison rather than some other. I'm kept here partly for my own protection. A "celebrity" prisoner who is different from the other prisoners and does not share their values is at a high risk of being attacked, perhaps even killed. With the extreme level of security in the part of this prison where I am, that can't happen. In most prisons, each inmate has to work at a prison job. If I had to do that I would not have time for the writing and correspondence that I'm doing. But here, because of the extreme level of security, there are very few jobs that prisoners can be allowed to do. And, for a prison, this place is quiet. In many prisons there is so much noise, 24 hours a day, that normal sleep is impossible.